C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER – Governor RICHARD M. ARMSTRONG – Director MURRY STURKIE, DO – Chair EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PHYSICIAN COMMISSION P.O. Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720-0036 PHONE 1-877-554-3367 FAX 208-334-4015

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Director Richard Armstrong Department of Health and Welfare PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720

## Director Armstrong:

The Idaho EMS Physician's Commission is aware that the Department of Health & Welfare has recently been involved in discussion about implementing a trauma system in Idaho. In addition, there are ongoing discussions regarding other time sensitive systems of care for STEMI and stroke. It is well recognized that the right treatment at the right time in the right facility greatly increases the probability of a positive outcome for STEMI, stroke and trauma patients.

The lack of organized systems of care for STEMI, stroke and trauma in Idaho presents an opportunity to address each of these time critical emergencies in a single organized system of care. We, therefore, encourage the creation of a single system of care for STEMI, stroke and trauma rather than attempting to develop a system that addresses a single emergency type and later attempting to add other time sensitive emergencies to an existing system that may or may not be able to adequately address those parameters.

We would like to offer our participation and assistance during these conversations that we hope will lead to an organized system of care for all time sensitive emergencies in Idaho.

Sincerely,

Murry B. Sturkie, DO, FACOEP, FACEP

Chairman